



ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Monday Evening, April 19, 2010

Electricity

Storms Knock Out Power to 136,000 Customers in Western Pennsylvania April 16

Powerful storms on the evening of April 16 knocked out power to 100,000 Allegheny Power and 36,000 Duquesne Light customers in western Pennsylvania. Wind gusts peaked at 86 miles per hour in some areas and caused trees to fall on power lines, according to reports. As of Monday morning, less than 1,000 customers remained without power. Duquesne Light and Allegheny Power both estimated that service would be restored by 4 p.m. local time today, April 19.

<http://www.post-gazette.com/pg/10109/1051691-100.stm>

http://www.pittsburghlive.com/x/dailycourier/news/s_677151.html

Small Fire Halts Startup of Entergy's 995 MW Arkansas Nuclear One Unit 1 April 18

The unit was manually tripped from 11 percent power after a "small fire" was discovered in a high pressure turbine enclosure. The plant will be cooled down for an unrelated repair to the reactor coolant pump seal.

Bloomberg News, 14:00 GMT April 19, 2010

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/ps.html>

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/en.html>

Turbine Problem Shuts Exelon's 855 MW Quad Cities Nuclear Unit 2 in Illinois as it Exits Refueling Outage April 16; Unit Restarts, Ramps Up to 17 Percent by April 19

The unit was exiting a refueling outage on April 16 when it was removed from service so that operators could inspect a slightly higher than expected temperatures on one of the unit's turbine bearings. The problem was related to the three new low-pressure turbines that Exelon replaced during the refueling outage. The unit restarted and ramped up to 17 percent by early April 19.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/ps.html>

<http://qconline.com/archives/qco/display.php?id=488744>

Reuters, 08:38 April 19, 2010

Leak Shuts Duke Energy's 846 MW Oconee Nuclear Unit 3 in South Carolina by April 19

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) reported that the unit was offline early April 19, down from 7 percent early April 18, and full power on April 17. The unit was shut so that operators could fix a leak in a feedwater heater. There is no estimate for when the plant will return to service.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/ps.html>

Bloomberg News, 13:47 GMT April 19, 2010

Update: Entergy's 730 MW Palisades Nuclear Unit in Michigan at Full Power by April 17

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) reported that the unit was operating at 35 percent on April 16.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/ps.html>

False 'Loss of Cooling Accident' Signal Briefly Reduces Southern's 856 MW Hatch Nuclear Unit 1 in Georgia Over Weekend

According to an event notification posted on the NRC's website, the unit was reduced to 86 percent of capacity on April 16 after the unit received an "emergency core cooling system loss of cooling accident (LOCA) signal on high drywall pressure." The signal was later determined to be an error and the unit returned to full power by early Sunday, April 18.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/ps.html>

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/en.html>

Update: Southern's 870 MW Hatch Nuclear Unit 2 in Georgia Ramps Up to 45 Percent by April 19

The unit, which exited an outage by Friday, April 16, ramped up to 45 percent by Monday morning, April 19. The unit was shut by April 5 for work on safety system relief valves.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/ps.html>

Reuters, 08:31 April 19, 2010

Exelon's 1,134 MW Limerick Nuclear Unit 1 in Pennsylvania Briefly Reduced Over Weekend

The unit dropped to 65 percent of power by early April 18, down from full power the day before. The unit returned to full power by early April 19. The unit exited a refueling outage on April 13.

<http://www.advertisertalk.com/limerick-generating-station-unit-1-returns-to-service-following-planned-refueling-outage-12225.zhtml>

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/ps.html>

FirstEnergy's 821 MW Beaver Valley Nuclear Unit 1 in Pennsylvania Reduced to 82 Percent by April 19

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) reported that the unit was operating at full power on April 18.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/ps.html>

Suspected Lightning Strike Briefly Shuts Luminant's 545 MW Sandow Coal-Fired Unit 4 in Texas April 18

The unit restarted two hours after tripping offline while at load due to a suspected lightning strike.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=138562>

Reuters, 09:54 April 19, 2010

Update: AEP to Restart 525 MW Welsh Coal-Fired Unit 3 in Texas April 19-17

The company plans to restart the unit, which shut on March 26 for work on auxiliary equipment.

Reuters, 09:51 April 19, 2010

Dynegy's 335 MW El Segundo Gas-Fired Unit 3 in California Briefly Shut by April 16

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported a return from an unplanned outage by April 17. The unit was reported shut by April 16.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201004161515.html>

Calpine's 751 MW Pastoria Energy Facility Gas-Fired Unit in California Returns to Full Power by April 16

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported a return from a planned curtailment of 261 MW.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201004161515.html>

Reliant's 130 MW Mandalay Gas-Fired Unit 3 in California Returns to Service by April 16

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported a return from an unplanned outage by April 16.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201004161515.html>

Ace Cogeneration's 118 MW Ace Cogeneration Coal-Fired Unit in California Briefly Shut by April 16

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit reported a return from an unplanned outage by April 17. The unit was reported shut by April 16.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus201004161515.html>

Petroleum

Power Disruption Affects Three Units at ExxonMobil's 572,000 b/d Baytown, Texas Refinery April 16

The April 16 power disruption affected a fluid catalytic cracker unit (FCCU), a hydrocracker, and a deasphalting unit, according to a company spokeswoman. As of April 18, all three units are "running."

Bloomberg News, 16:17 GMT, April 19, 2010

Power Briefly Cut to Valero's 100,000 b/d Three Rivers, Texas Refinery April 16

The refinery experienced a power outage Friday afternoon but power was restored within "a couple" hours according to a company spokesman. The spokesman didn't think any of the main production units were affected and said there was "no material impact to production." The outage occurred during heavy rainstorms that are suspected as a possible cause of the outage.

Reuters, 10:12 April 19, 2010

Reuters, 10:11 April 19, 2010

Valero Cuts Charge to FCCU at 310,000 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery April 17

Operators cut charge to stabilize the fluid catalytic cracking unit (FCCU) 1241 after the unit experienced fractionator problems that resulted in intermittent flaring at the wet gas compressor suction. A spokesman for the refinery said the incident caused "no material impact to production" as the refinery is currently undergoing a turnaround.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=138565>

http://online.wsj.com/article/BT-CO-20100419-708211.html?mod=WSJ_latestheadlines

Shell Investigating Fatal Industrial Accident at Motiva Port Arthur Refinery

Bloomberg News, 16:57 GMT April 19, 2010

North Dakota's Bakken Crude Moves by Rail to NuStar Energy's St. James, Louisiana Oil Terminal

NuStar Energy L.P. announced Friday that its St. James, Louisiana, terminal has unloaded its first rail car shipments of Bakken crude oil from North Dakota. The company recently invested \$2 million in its St. James facility so it can accept crude oil by rail in an effort to bring new sources of crude oil to the Louisiana trading hub. The company currently has the ability to bring in approximately 5,000 b/d by rail on a manifest basis. And through a manifest rail expansion, NuStar will have the ability to expand to bring in 10,000 b/d as Bakken production increases throughout the summer and producers demand additional market outlets.

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=22284

Ecuadorean President Threatens to Expropriate Foreign Oil Companies if They Fail to Sign New Service-Based Contracts

<http://latindispatch.com/2010/04/19/ecuadors-president-correa-calls-for-more-oil-revenue-threatens-to-nationalize-foreign-companies/>

Natural Gas

Offsite Power Failure Cuts Power to Marshall Gas Processing Plant in Texas April 18

Operators shut feed and air to all furnaces at the plant. Operators re-established power two hours after the incident began.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=138564>

Power Outage Shuts AGI System at Waha Gas Processing Plant in Texas April 18

The Acid Gas Injection (AGI) system went offline due to unforeseen loss of purchase power. The cause of the power interruption was identified as quickly as possible. The AGI system was placed back into service as soon as the acid gas volume from the amine plant reached the correct amount to be sent to the AGI compressor.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=138566>

Process Upset Reduces Inlet Rates at Javelina Gas Processing Plant in Texas April 16

Operators reduced inlet rates, bypassed downstream processes to reduce liquid levels, and relieved excess gas to flare for destruction after a process upset occurred in the depropanizer. The facility was in the process of resuming operations after a short maintenance outage.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=138561>

GLDU Station 14 System Leaking and Flaring Natural Gas in Texas April 18-26

Operators are flaring gas due to a leak on the system.

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=138563>

Canadian Police Investigate Letter Threatening More Bomb Attacks on EnCana's Natural Gas Facilities in Northeast British Columbia

<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSN1521237120100415?type=marketsNews>

Other News

ConEdison to Invest \$190 million in Rooftop Solar Panels in New York and New Jersey, and Larger, Ground-Mounted Solar Power Plants in Texas

Bloomberg News, 17:52 GMT April 19, 2010

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
April 19, 2010			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	81.33	84.52	50.48
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	3.97	3.90	3.54

Source: Reuters

Energy Notes

Suspicious Substance Scare Causes 5-Hour Lockdown at NPPD's General Offices in Nebraska April 16

<http://www.omaha.com/article/20100416/NEWS01/704169896>

Seven Thieves Arrested Stealing Copper from BC Hydro Substation in British Columbia April 15; Thieves Damage \$2.7 Million Special Underwater Cable Beyond Repair

http://www.google.com/hostednews/canadianpress/article/ALeqM5grppJCCm-xsk_alu5BgrlTo2n7zw

200 lbs of Copper Stolen from Dominion Virginia Power Storage Yard April 13

<http://progress-index.com/news/200-lbs-of-copper-stolen-from-dominion-property-1.731268>

China National Petroleum Corp., Chinese Development Bank Sign \$20 Billion Credit-for-Oil Deal with Venezuela

http://online.wsj.com/article/BT-CO-20100419-703835.html?mod=WSJ_World_MIDDLEHeadlinesAmericas

Mexico Plans to Keep Oil Production Between 2.4 and 3 million b/d 2010-2024

http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=91168

Links

This Week in Petroleum from the Energy Information Administration (EIA)

<http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/oog/info/twip/twip.asp>

Updated every Wednesday.

Weekly Petroleum Status Report from EIA

http://www.eia.doe.gov/oil_gas/petroleum/data_publications/weekly_petroleum_status_report/wpsr.html

Updated after 10:30 AM & 1:00 PM EST every Wednesday.

Natural Gas Weekly Update from EIA

<http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/oog/info/ngw/ngupdate.asp>

Updated after 2:00 PM EST every Thursday.

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

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<http://www.oe.netl.doe.gov/ead.aspx>

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